

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A composition for the treatment or prevention of
alveolar destruction in a mammal comprising a
pharmaceutically effective amount of an RAR β
antagonist having RAR specific modulating
activity.

10 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein said RAR β
antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

15 3. The composition of claim 1 wherein said RAR β
antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

4. The composition of claim 1 wherein said RAR β
antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

20 5. The composition of claim 1 wherein said
composition further comprises said RAR β
antagonist in dissolved form.

6. The composition of claim 5 wherein said RAR β
antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

25 7. The composition of claim 5 wherein said RAR β
antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

8. The composition of claim 5 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

5 9. An aerosol for pulmonary delivery of a pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition comprising an RAR β antagonist having specific RAR modulating activity.

10 10. The aerosol of claim 9 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

11. The aerosol of claim 9 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

15 12. The aerosol of claim 9 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

20 13. A method for the treatment or prevention of alveolar destruction in a mammal comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of an RAR β antagonist specific RAR modulating activity to said mammal.

25 14. The method of claim 13, wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

15. The method of claim 13 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

16. The method of claim 13 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

17. The method of claim 13, wherein said composition
5 is administered in the form of an inhalant.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

10 19. The method of claim 17 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

20. The method of claim 17 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

15
21. A method to increase the gas-exchange surface area of a mammalian lung in a mammal in need thereof comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of an RAR β antagonist having specific RAR modulating activity to said mammal.

20
22. The method of claim 21, wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

25
23. The method of claim 21 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

24. The method of claim 21 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

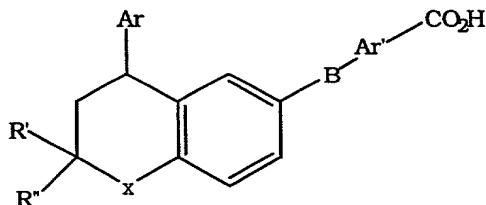
5 25. The method of claim 21, wherein said composition is administered in the form of an inhalant.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α .

10 27. The method of claim 25 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR γ .

28. The method of claim 25 wherein said RAR β antagonist is not specific to RAR α or RAR γ .

15 29. The RAR β antagonist of any of the foregoing claims, comprising the structural formula:



20

wherein

a) X is selected from the group consisting of CR₂, O, S, and NR;

25 b) R' and R'' are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and lower alkyl;

c) Ar and Ar' are each independently a single ring aryl moiety; and

d) B is selected from the group consisting of --
CR'CH--, --CHCR'--, --COO--, --OOC--; --COHN--; --NHOC--;
--CSHN--; and --NHSC--.

5

30. The RAR β antagonist of claim 29 wherein Ar
and Ar' are each independently selected from
the group consisting of substituted or
unsubstituted phenyl, furyl, thiienyl and
10 pyridyl groups.

EE EE